

<1/16/19 Strike Update> Mayor will Facilitate Resumed Bargaining Tomorrow; Strike to Continue

1 message

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Dear Los Angeles Charter Leaders,

First and foremost on behalf of all of us at CCSA, we thank you for the incredible work you are doing to serve students and families throughout our city at this historic moment. You are supporting tens of thousands of students, staff, and families through an especially difficult time. This isn't easy, but you're making it look that way. As attendance at charter schools throughout Los Angeles remains high, you are modeling for our city the aims that we hear from you consistently: that every second our students spend in school counts, and that everyone wins when adults put kids first. There will be new opportunities, relationships, and strength that will come out of this important inflection point for our movement because of the work you've done this week to stay united in voice and action and focused on safety and learning. We deeply appreciate your heart, passion, thoughtfulness, and courage, and we couldn't be more proud in this moment to stand with you.

Today, Mayor Garcetti announced he would host renewed negotiations between the two parties at City Hall later in the evening; there was another uptick in protests requiring police intervention; and a UTLA held a protest at Board President Monica Garcia's home. More updates are below:

UTLA and LAUSD head back to the bargaining table tomorrow with the Mayor mediating. UTLA announced today that they have offered to return to the bargaining table tomorrow and that the union was receiving support from Mayor Garcetti and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond. In an evening press conference, UTLA also announced protest actions through Friday on the grounds that they want to gain momentum for bargaining that could likely run into the weekend. Late tonight, LAUSD confirmed talks with resume tomorrow.

No LAUSD Board Meeting Agenda has been released for the Tuesday, January 22nd meeting. The meeting is likely to be cancelled, but we are watching for the release of an agenda. If the board meets in open session on January 22nd or at all during the strike, we will ask for your help in representing and protecting the charter community.

Alex Caputo-Pearl continued calls for a charter school moratorium and enlisted a City Council member to echo that message. This morning at UTLA's press conference, City Councilmember Paul Koretz called for a charter moratorium to end the strike. In an abundance of caution, we seek to better understand what relationships you all hold with City Council members, in case they continue to weigh in. Once again, if you have a relationship with a City Councilmember(s), please [email our team directly](#).

Attendance continued to be low across LAUSD as protests picked up on school sites, including some charters. For the third day in a row, LAUSD attendance hovered around 1/3rd of total enrollment; the district published figures citing \$24.6 million in lost revenue due to the mass absences. Meanwhile, we saw a slight uptick in protests requiring police intervention, including an increase in incidents at co-located charters and some protests at private charter school sites. As protests increase and picketers remain at local mid-day actions tomorrow, we urge you to please:

- Revisit communications with your co-located administrators and staff - and reach out with a gesture of good faith if possible, such as offering donuts or lunch. We know they are getting fatigued.
- **Continue to contingency plan around how to provide a safe entry and exit for your students and staff - even if you are located on a private site. We expect private site picketing tomorrow.**
- **If you are picketed on a private site, please call your local law enforcement agency, and NOT LA School Police, for help on your school site.**

A UTLA-aligned group protested in front of Board President Monica Garcia's home. We encourage you, if you have existing relationships, to reach out and show your appreciation for Board President Garcia, the Superintendent, Board Members, and LAUSD staff; some are facing difficult personal attacks and showing courage in standing up for all kids. This is again a good moment to provide support and words of encouragement for colleagues, friends, and peers in this work.

As always, please contact our team with any questions, and review consequential news media clips and CCSA-provided resources below:

- [LAist/KPCC on 1/16: The Class Size Conundrum At The Heart Of LAUSD's Teachers Strike](#)
- [KPCC on 1/16: The controversy behind charter schools, and their role in the LAUSD teachers strike \(Myrna interview\)](#)
- [LA Times on 1/16: L.A. teachers bask in support for strike, but pressure grows to settle amid financial losses](#)
- [LA Times on 1/16: L.A. teachers union announces it's ready to return to bargaining table](#)
- [NY Times on 1/16: L.A. Schools Leader Says, 'Strike Is a Rallying Cry, but What Does It Lead To?'](#)

Again, with logistical or media issues throughout the strike, please contact your Regional Advocacy Director:

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In addition, please plan to join us tomorrow at 5PM for an evening member call.

We have updated member resources and are sharing new guidance. Our recently **UPDATED** Strike Preparedness How-To Guide for Charter School Leaders includes a complete list of all member resources, including:

- **NEW:** Updated letter to families with new strike date and recommendations on interacting with members of the media.
- **NEW:** Sample Statement for Charter Schools to Give to Media During LAUSD Strike
- **NEW:** Charter Educator Update on UTLA's Open Letter to Charter Teachers (Please review this resources with your legal counsel before distributing to your staff, particularly if you have unique school-specific labor considerations.)
- As a reminder, the **LA School Police Watch Command number is (213) 625-6631**. Detailed information on contacting law enforcement is available in our Picketing Guide.

In an effort to equip members to focus on serving kids while we tackle the broader narrative, CCSA has created the following **NEW** resource page for media on the strike.

As a reminder, if you receive media inquiries, please **let your RA Director** know, and then use this **NEW** statement to refer reporters to us.

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